



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6317

January Session, 2013



**AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTRATION OF GROWERS OF SWINE
AND TREATMENT OF GESTATING SOWS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Any person, firm or
2 corporation engaged in the growing of swine that are to be used or
3 disposed of elsewhere than on the premises where such swine are
4 grown shall register with the Commissioner of Agriculture on forms
5 furnished by the commissioner. The commissioner may make orders
6 and adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54
7 of the general statutes, concerning examination, quarantine,
8 disinfection, preventive treatment, disposition, transportation,
9 importation, feeding and sanitation for the protection of swine from
10 contagious and infectious disease. Said commissioner shall, at once,
11 cause an investigation of all cases of such diseases coming to the
12 commissioner's knowledge and shall use all proper means to
13 exterminate and prevent spread of the same. Instructions shall be
14 issued, in writing, by the commissioner or the commissioner's agent
15 that shall contain directions for quarantine and disinfection of the
16 premises where such disease exists. No swine shall be brought into
17 Connecticut by any individual, corporation or common carrier, unless
18 the same originate from a herd that is validated as brucellosis-free and
19 qualified pseudorabies-negative, and are accompanied by a permit
20 issued by the commissioner and an official health certificate showing

21 such animals to be free from any contagious or infectious disease,
22 except that swine brought into this state for the purpose of immediate
23 slaughter upon premises where federal inspection is maintained need
24 not be accompanied by an official health certificate and the owner of
25 each establishment where federal inspection is maintained shall report
26 weekly to the commissioner, upon forms furnished by the
27 commissioner, the number of such swine imported. Such permit shall
28 accompany all waybills or, if animals are driven or carted over
29 highways, shall be in the possession of the person in charge of swine.
30 In addition to any other requirements of this section, all swine
31 imported for other than immediate slaughter that are over three
32 months of age, other than barrows, shall be negative as to a blood test
33 for brucellosis and pseudorabies within thirty days of importation.
34 With approval of the State Veterinarian, a thirty-day blood test may
35 not be required for swine originating from, and residing for at least
36 thirty days prior to importation in, a state that is validated as
37 brucellosis-free and stage V pseudorabies-free, or for swine originating
38 from any herd which the State Veterinarian determines to be
39 pathogen-free. With such approval, swine may be imported pursuant
40 to an import permit and a current official health certificate. All swine
41 brought into the state for immediate slaughter shall be killed in an
42 approved slaughterhouse under veterinary inspection.

43 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this
44 section:

45 (1) "Enclosure" means any cage, crate or other structure used for
46 gestating sows;

47 (2) "Farm" means the land, buildings, support facilities and other
48 equipment that are wholly or partially used for the commercial
49 production of animals or animal products used for food or fiber.
50 "Farm" does not include live animal markets;

51 (3) "Farm owner or operator" means any person who owns or
52 controls the operation of a farm. "Farm owner or operator" does not

53 include any nonmanagement employee, contractor or consultant;

54 (4) "Fully extending" means to be able to fully extend all limbs
55 without touching the side of any enclosure;

56 (5) "Gestating sow" means a pregnant pig of the porcine species kept
57 for the primary purpose of breeding; and

58 (6) "Turning around freely" means to be able to turn in a complete
59 circle without any impediment, including a tether, and without
60 touching the side of any enclosure.

61 (b) No farm owner or operator shall knowingly tether or confine
62 any gestating sow in any enclosure in a manner that prevents such
63 gestating sow from turning around freely, lying down, standing up or
64 fully extending such gestating sow's limbs.

65 (c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall not apply
66 during any: (1) Medical research, (2) examination, testing, treatment or
67 operation for veterinary purposes, provided such examination, testing,
68 treatment or operation is performed by or under the direct supervision
69 of a licensed veterinarian, (3) transporting of such gestational sow, (4)
70 state or county fair exhibition, 4-H program or similar exhibition, (5)
71 temporary confinement of not more than six hours during any twenty-
72 four-hour period for animal husbandry purposes, (6) humane
73 slaughter in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, or (7)
74 seven-day period prior to such gestating sow's expected date to give
75 birth.

76 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any other
77 provision of the general statutes that may be construed to protect the
78 welfare of any gestating sow.

79 (e) It shall not be an affirmative defense to an alleged violation of
80 this section that such farm owner or operator kept such gestating sow
81 as part of an agricultural operation and in accordance with customary
82 animal husbandry or farming practices.

83 (f) Any farm owner or operator who violates the provisions of this
84 section shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or
85 imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 2 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |

ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*